



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/S-18/1
12 March 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eighteenth special session

PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY*

To convene at United Nations Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 23 April 1990, at 10 a.m.

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Nigeria.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Credentials of representatives to the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly:
 - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President.
5. Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session.
6. Organization of the session.
7. Adoption of the agenda.
8. General debate.
9. International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries.

* Issued in accordance with rule 16 of the rules of procedure.



General Assembly

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GENERAL

A/S-18/2
12 April 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eighteenth special session
Item 9 of the provisional agenda*

- * INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION, IN PARTICULAR THE
REVITALIZATION OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF
THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1990/18 of 23 February 1990 entitled "The right to development", requested the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly at its special session on international economic co-operation, to be held in April 1990, the report of the Global Consultation on the Realization of the Right to Development as a Human Right. That report is available in document E/CN.4/1990/9 (Parts I-IV).

2. In addition, the General Assembly may wish to note that the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on 1 February 1990 adopted its General Comment No. 2 (1990) entitled "International technical assistance measures (article 22)" (see E/1990/23). That General Comment is also being made available to the Assembly.

* A/S-18/1.



General Assembly

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A/S-18/3
17 April 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eighteenth special session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF A SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 17 April 1990 from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General containing a request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the eighteenth special session

I have the honour to request you to transmit to the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session the following resolution (resolution 652 (1990)) on the admission of the Republic of Namibia to membership in the United Nations, adopted unanimously by the Security Council at its 2918th meeting, on 17 April 1990:

"The Security Council,

"Having examined the application of the Republic of Namibia for admission to the United Nations, 1/

"Recommends to the General Assembly that the Republic of Namibia be admitted to membership in the United Nations."

In this regard, the Security Council has decided to request the inclusion of an item entitled "Admission of new Members to the United Nations" in the supplementary list of items proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the eighteenth special session, in accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

1/ S/21241. To be issued under the symbol A/S-18/5.

A/S-18/3
English
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In accordance with rule 60, paragraph 2, of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, I also request you to transmit to the General Assembly, for its information, the verbatim records of the 2917th and 2918th meetings of the Council, at which the application of the Republic of Namibia was discussed.

(Signed) Tesfaye TADESSE
President of the Security Council

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General Assembly

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A/S-18/4
17 April 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eighteenth special session

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF ITEMS PROPOSED FOR INCLUSION IN THE AGENDA
OF THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY*

Admission of new Members to the United Nations [Security Council decision of
17 April 1990 (A/S-18/3)].

* Issued in accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure.



General Assembly

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A/S-18/5
18 April 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eighteenth special session
Item 10 of the draft agenda*

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Application of Namibia for admission to membership
in the United Nations

In accordance with rule 134 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate herewith the application of the Republic of Namibia for admission to membership in the United Nations, contained in a letter dated 6 April 1990 from the Republic of Namibia to the Secretary-General. 1/

Notes

* A/S-18/6.

1/ The text of the application was circulated on 10 April 1990 to the members of the Security Council (S/21241).

ANNEX

Letter dated 6 April 1990 from the President of the Republic
of Namibia addressed to the Secretary-General

Following Namibia's accession to independence on 21 March 1990 and in keeping with the constructive consultations we had in Windhoek on a number of urgent matters, including in particular Namibia's membership in the United Nations, I would like, by this letter, to submit an application, in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Convinced of the acceptance of the application, the Republic of Namibia undertakes to make a solemn pledge to accept and carry out the obligations contained in the present Charter.

In this context, the Government of the Republic of Namibia would be most grateful if Your Excellency could ensure that the application is given consideration on a priority basis, so as to enable the Namibian delegation to participate in the work of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to economic development, to be held from 23 to 28 April 1990.

(Signed) Sam NUJOMA
President of the Republic of Namibia



General Assembly

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A/S-18/6
18 April 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eighteenth special session

DRAFT AGENDA OF THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

To convene at United Nations Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 23 April 1990, at 9.30 a.m.

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Nigeria (P.1). 1/
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (P.2).
3. Credentials of representatives to the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly (P.3):
 - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President (P.4).
5. Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session (P.5).
6. Organization of the session (P.6).
7. Adoption of the agenda (P.7).
8. General debate (P.8).
9. International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries (P.9).
10. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (S.1).

1/ Abbreviations used in the present document:

- (P.): item on the provisional agenda (A/S-18/1);
(S.): item on the supplementary list (A/S-18/4).



General Assembly

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A/S-18/7 (Part I)
20 April 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eighteenth special session

REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE EIGHTEENTH
SPECIAL SESSION*

* The present document, which is being issued in two parts, is a mimeographed version of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session on the work of its second and third sessions. The report will subsequently be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/S-18/7).

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. By decisions 43/460 of 7 March 1989, the General Assembly decided to convene from 23 to 27 April 1990 a special session devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries. In section V of the annex to decision 43/460, provision was made for an intergovernmental preparatory committee of the whole to be established to make the necessary preparations for the special session: The Preparatory Committee of the Whole for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular to the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries was entrusted with drawing up the provisional agenda and submitting a draft final document to the Assembly at its special session.
2. In its decision 44/461 of 12 March 1990, the General Assembly decided that the special session would be held from 23 to 28 April 1990.
3. The Preparatory Committee held three sessions. It submitted the report on its first session to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session (A/44/45). The present document contains the report of the Preparatory Committee on its second and third sessions. ^{1/}

^{1/} The report of the Preparatory Committee on its third session will be issued as A/S-18/7 (Part II).

II. MEETINGS OF THE SECOND SESSION

A. Organization of meetings

1. Opening and duration of the session

4. The Preparatory Committee held its second session at United Nations Headquarters from 26 February to 2 March 1990. The Committee held three meetings (7th to 9th) and a number of informal consultations during that period.

5. On 26 February, the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee opened the session.

2. Attendance

6. In accordance with General Assembly decision 43/460, the Preparatory Committee was open to the participation of all Member States. A list of participants is contained in the annex to the present report.

3. Election of officers

7. The Officers of the Preparatory Committee were elected at its organizational session (see A/44/45, para. 6).

4. Adoption of the agenda

8. At its 7th meeting, on 26 February, the Preparatory Committee adopted the following agenda for the session (A/AC.233/4):

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries:
 - (a) Main developments in the 1980s and the challenges of the 1990s and an assessment of obstacles and impediments to growth and development;
 - (b) The reactivation of economic growth and development in developing countries;
 - (c) Strengthening and enhancing international economic co-operation and multilateralism in international economic relations.
3. Organization of work of the special session.
4. Provisional agenda for the third session of the Preparatory Committee of the Whole.

5. Documentation

9. The Preparatory Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Provisional agenda (A/AC.233/4);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the state of international economic co-operation and effective ways and means of revitalizing the economic growth and development of developing countries (E/AC.233/5 and Corr.1);

(c) Note by the Secretariat transmitting to the second session of the Preparatory Committee the text of the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee annexed to General Assembly decision 44/444 of 22 December 1989 (A/AC.233/L.2);

(d) Proposal submitted by Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 entitled "Draft declaration on the special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries" (A/AC.233/L.3);

(e) Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Wang Baoliu (China), on the organization of work for the special session, entitled "Provisional agenda and organizational matters" (A/AC.233/L.4);

(f) Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Wang Baoliu (China), entitled "Date and provisional agenda for the third session of the Preparatory Committee" (A/AC.233/L.5);

(g) Proposal submitted by Canada entitled "Elements for a declaration of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries" (A/AC.233/L.6);

(h) Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the special session (A/AC.233/CRP.1).

B. International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries

10. On 27 February, a draft proposal was circulated to the Preparatory Committee (A/AC.233/L.3) submitted by Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, entitled "Draft Declaration on the Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries". The draft proposal read as follows:

"We, the Member States of the United Nations having met at the special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries, have decided to undertake a commitment through the following

"DECLARATION

"To develop a new global covenant to promote international economic co-operation for the growth of the world economy and in particular, the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries, based on the following considerations:

"1. Recognition by the international community that in an increasingly interdependent world, the developing countries can play an important role in the stabilization, growth and expansion of the world economy, for the progress and prosperity of all peoples.

"2. The existence of two thirds of the world population doomed to a life of deprivation and abject poverty cannot continue.

"3. Recognition of the need to strongly support the efforts of the developing countries in solving their grave economic and social problems through the creation of a favourable international economic environment.

"4. Initiation of an enlightened and vigorous international economic co-operation based on heightened awareness of the urgent need to provide just and equal opportunities to all peoples and to help them develop their full potential within their own values, in full exercise of their sovereign rights.

"5. The necessity of shaping and directing the outcome of the momentous events currently under way, towards a positive transformation in international relations among nations leading to a more interdependent and integrated world, free from intolerance and discrimination, hunger and disease, oppression and exploitation, illiteracy and poverty, and above all, war and conflict. In this context, we stress the need to utilize the peace dividend to promote the objectives and commitment contained in this Declaration.

"Assessment of developments in the 1980s

"6. In the last decade, the world economy has been characterized by relatively slow growth and by global financial and trade imbalances. Within this overall picture, the socio-economic experiences of countries and groups of countries have been diverse. Developed market-oriented countries have succeeded to a large extent in controlling inflation and in maintaining steady and uninterrupted, though modest, growth. However, many countries, particularly developing ones, have encountered serious difficulties in their attempt to adapt to structural changes and to benefit from the economic growth of industrialized countries.

"7. As an essential feature, the 1980s were characterized by lack of appropriate and effective macro-economic policy co-ordination and surveillance. This has resulted in increasing domestic structural and fiscal imbalances in the countries whose economies have the largest impact on the world economy, and great instability in the international financial markets and exchange rates. These, in turn, have provoked unstable and excessively high interest rates, which in real terms have remained at historically high levels.

"8. Another feature of the 1980s has been the multipolarization of the global economic structure. Japan and the European Economic Community have emerged as new economic and financial centres.

"9. On the other hand, Eastern European countries remained apart from the world economic system during most of the decade. During this period, these countries lagged behind in productive and managerial efficiency. Their trade policies were marked by isolationism and protectionism. As a result, the need for structural transformation grew. Sweeping political and economic changes erupted in these countries at the very end of the decade, opening new challenges and opportunities for the 1990s.

"10. The role of developing countries in the world economy has become increasingly marginal and their participation in international trade and finance has substantially decreased, further widening the gap between these countries and the developed ones.

"11. Living conditions in most developing countries particularly in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and many in Asia have deteriorated, in comparison to the levels of the 1960s and 1970s. Economic and social infrastructure, painfully built over the years, have eroded seriously, thus impairing prospects for growth and development. The burden of adjustment has been disproportionately high for developing countries and is exacting unacceptably high social and political costs. For these regions, the 1980s have been viewed as a lost decade for development.

"12. The mounting external indebtedness of developing countries has persisted and worsened during this period. The debt problem emerged as a principal cause of the economic stalemate of these countries, impeding their economic growth and development. Partial solutions have merely succeeded in preventing a major financial and monetary world-wide crisis but are still inadequate in substantially reducing the debt burden of developing countries. This problem has been aggravated by high interest rates, contributing to the lack of investment and cessation of new financial flows.

"13. Connected with this problem has been a deterioration in the terms of trade of developing countries and long-term downward trend in the prices of commodities with devastating effects for commodity-dependent developing countries. Structural rigidities and resistance to structural changes have exacerbated protectionism in the developed countries, impeding access of exports from developing countries.

"14. All these factors have resulted in a massive negative transfer of resources from the developing to the developed countries, depriving the former of much needed resources for their economic growth and development.

"15. Due to the negative impact of the international economic situation, and as a result of severe adjustment measures, public expenditures on education, health, housing, welfare, and physical infrastructure have been dramatically reduced, placing a heavy burden on the population as a whole and on the most vulnerable groups, increasing the levels of extreme poverty which has become one of the most serious obstacles for long-term development and the origin of political instability and social turmoil.

"16. The adverse and well-known conditions of the 1980s are likely to persist in the years ahead unless remedial measures are taken promptly, both nationally and internationally.

"Challenge for the 1990s

"17. The challenge for the 1990s should be confronted in the context of increasing interdependence and integration of the world economy and collective responsibility in finding equitable and durable solutions to the problems faced by the developing countries, through the revitalization of their economic growth and development.

"18. Economic growth depends on the existence of an international economic environment where developing countries can exert their competitiveness through access to markets and to science and technology, and where they can succeed in improving the quality of their human capital and modernize their economies.

"19. The international community should seek to reverse the trends of the 1980s and reach agreement in addressing adequately the pressing interrelated problems of money, finance, trade and development.

"20. Regional economic integration represents an important mechanism for expanding trade and investment in developing countries and these efforts should be encouraged. Nevertheless, trade liberalization in the European Economic Community by 1992 and between the United States and Canada should aim to generate positive impulses for world trade and development and avoid discriminatory practices.

"21. Eastern European countries are undergoing profound economic and political changes oriented towards a new integration into the world economy. It is hoped that this process should open new opportunities for export markets of developing countries.

"22. It is recognized that the revitalization of growth and development in developing countries is required as an essential condition for the promotion of environmental protection. The enhancement and increase of international co-operation in this regard will be central to enable developing countries, through financial, scientific and technological co-operation, to address adequately their environmental problems and participate effectively in the efforts for the protection and improvement of the global environment. It should be stressed that the common concerns over environmental questions should not, in any way, result in new restrictions for development. The correct national actions should be promoted through agreements to be reached at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992.

"Commitments and policy directions for the future

"23. In a new spirit of solidarity, the Member States stand ready to forge an international commitment to undertake the necessary measures in an integrated manner towards the improvement of the international economic environment for the expansion of the world economy and for accelerated economic growth and development of the developing countries, taking also into account previous initiatives in this regard.

"24. All States agree that a set of concrete actions should be implemented to reverse the situations that have led to the economic stagnation, and in some cases decline, that developing countries have faced during the past decade. The tendencies that prevailed in the 1980s must be changed through co-ordinated, consistent and parallel efforts by all countries according to their capacities and respective impact on the international economy. Each State and nation is responsible for its own economic policies for development and for the life and well-being of all its citizens. However, external conditions are intertwined with those of internal origin and can reinforce them or counter them and cause their failure.

"25. The opportunity to restore a long-term approach to development and to move away from short-term, adjustment-led patterns should now be seized and fully developed. Such approach can be built into an agreement for global progress that ensures compatibility of short and long-term policies, higher quality of life and greater equity.

"26. For the efforts of the developing countries to succeed, it is essential that the pattern of international economic relations be transformed into one conducive to the reactivation of economic growth and sustained development of developing countries. This will contribute to a decrease in international interest rates, stability of financial markets and exchange rates which will be of central importance in supporting the policies of the developing countries.

"27. In this context, the major industrialized nations should ensure sustained world economic growth in a stable and harmonious manner. The fiscal deficit of the United States and other industrialized countries and the corresponding surpluses of the developed countries should be corrected in a co-ordinated and coherent way, to avoid recessionary effects and drastic decreases in aggregate demand and trade.

"28. The increasing internationalization of the world economy must, therefore, be matched with more symmetric interdependence. An equitable and effective multilateral macro-economic co-ordination will be essential to ensure such goal. This new policy co-ordination should allow for full participation of countries with different situations, problems and responsibilities, including developing countries, and should have effective means, mechanisms and appropriate institutional framework for multilateral macro-economic surveillance.

"29. Effective macro-economic co-ordination, and in particular, fiscal discipline are vital for stable and favourable conditions in the world economy. In this context, the co-ordination of international macro-economic policies has to be broadened to take account of the concerns of all countries, in particular the developing countries. Such co-ordination should be directed towards global economic growth and social development to achieve equitable distribution of the fruits of progress through an expanded world economy. Developed and developing countries shall participate in this process on an equitable basis.

"30. The achievement of the reactivation of the economic growth and development of developing countries will require concerted action by all countries. To contribute to this process, the developing countries should

continue to work towards keeping control over inflationary tendencies, ensuring the active promotion of domestic savings, the strengthening, expansion and modernization of their economies and productive sectors, and the rise in their international competitiveness are essential in this context.

"31. Moreover, the developing countries should continue to encourage both domestic and foreign investment. In this connection, there is a need for these countries to achieve favourable domestic conditions for investment and capital formation, in accordance with their legislation, development objectives and national priorities.

"32. A durable and comprehensive solution of the external debt crisis of the developing countries, which has resulted in instability, diversion of domestic savings and recurring macro-economic destabilizing negotiations and renegotiations with creditors, is crucial and should accordingly be given urgent attention. More innovative mechanisms should be developed to reduce significantly the debt burden of the developing countries. Such a reduction should be sufficiently large to permit resumption of growth and development in these countries. The schemes for reduction of debt stock and service should be broadened to include all types of debt and debtor developing countries. For the least developed countries, a total forgiveness of all official debts should be urgently undertaken.

"33. Net flows of financial resources to developing countries should be substantially increased. The capacity of developing countries to attract financial flows, particularly commercial ones, depends on various conditions, in particular on the substantial reduction of the debt burden and debt overhang which requires the active involvement of the Governments of developed countries. The capacity of developing countries to increase domestic and external investment levels is directly related to interest rates in the international financial market.

"34. Official development assistance should reach the recommended target of 0.7 per cent agreed upon in the 1970s. Higher levels of international targets should now be agreed upon and disbursed.

"35. Foreign direct investment and the revival of bank lending to developing countries should be encouraged by the Governments of the developed countries to complement domestic capital formation in those countries.

"36. The multilateral community should support international financial institutions to enable them to assume a much larger role in meeting the financial resource requirements of the developing countries at the global and regional levels.

"37. Due to the current relaxation of international political tensions and agreements reached in the field of disarmament, substantial financial resources should be released for economic and social development of the developing countries. In this connection, the feasibility of establishing a United Nations 'Disarmament for Development Fund' should be seriously considered.

"38. Trade imbalances will have to be dealt with effectively. The surplus economies and other highly competitive developed countries in the international market should promote larger imports from other regions and countries and liberalize accordingly their trade régimes.

"39. It is essential to develop a more open, credible and durable multilateral trading system which can contribute effectively to the promotion of growth and development, taking due account of the specific needs of the developing countries, in accordance with the principles governing the Uruguay Round negotiations and the Punta del Este Declaration.

"40. It is important, as an immediate objective, to arrest the slide towards unilateralism, bilateralism, protectionism and the erosion of multilaterally agreed norms. In this connection, all countries should refrain from taking any steps conducive to the further deterioration of the multilateral trading system. In this context, industrialized countries should open their markets to international competition, letting developing countries take advantage of their competitive position. Developed countries and multilateral organizations should ensure that trade blocs that are being formed in different regions of the world do not impede the growth of international trading opportunities, particularly for developing countries. The principle of the most-favoured-nation clause should be expanded and applied consistently, taking into account particularly the needs of developing countries.

"41. The promotion of new mechanisms and the strengthening of existing ones should be undertaken with a view to ensuring the predictability and stability of commodity markets, improving commodity export earnings of developing countries and facilitating the rapid diversification and technological restructuring of their economies. There is a need to reduce the growing disadvantages between the prices of commodities and manufactured goods exported by developing countries and the prices of goods they import from industrialized countries.

"42. Both international financial and trade measures, in particular those regarding commodities, should lead to the reversal of the current situation of negative net transfer of resources from developing to developed countries.

"43. The economic and trade integration processes, as well as the establishment of economic complementarities among developing countries, could constitute, if sustained, an important engine for growth and development in those countries and should be promoted and supported through the expansion of their market opportunities and the strengthening of their economic situation.

"44. The endeavours of the developing countries to promote and strengthen economic and technical co-operation among themselves should also be effectively supported by the developed countries, as well as the international organizations.

"45. There should be an international effort to support Eastern European countries in their efforts to integrate the international market-driven economy. The adhesion of these countries in international specialized agencies of the United Nations system and their full participation in the world economy should be accelerated. The actions of the international

community and of the international economic integration of these countries is for the benefit of their own people and of the world as a whole, particularly developing countries.

"46. Taking into account that developed Eastern European countries already possess substantial financial capacities, a developed, strong and diversified economic, social and cultural infrastructure, including considerable industrial capacity and broad-based scientific and technological research and development sector, it would be of great importance to enhance the contribution of the Eastern European countries to the socio-economic development of developing countries, through, in particular, transfer of resources, including financial resources, and access by these countries to full membership, as industrial countries, in multilateral, international and regional financial and development institutions. A broad programme of co-operation with developing countries should be considered to enhance and increase the economic ties of these countries with developing countries.

"47. Special co-operative and financial mechanisms at the global, regional and subregional levels should be promoted to ensure the transfer of scientific and technological know-how to developing countries, and to develop the endogenous capacity of these countries in all fields including industrial and agricultural production, services and informatics. The attainment of an improved and credible trading system will also depend on the elimination of all restrictive measures which limit the access of developing countries to scientific and technological advances.

"48. Reactivation of growth and development of developing countries will only be possible with the advancement in the quality of development, the improvement in the living standards of the people, increased equity, broad participation and larger choice and better opportunities. Economic policies should therefore have as their main objective the betterment of the human condition and the enhancement of the contribution of all peoples in economic activities. In this regard, there is need for additional concessional resources to be allocated for the eradication of poverty in developing countries.

"49. The international community should adopt urgent and corrective measures to arrest the current escalating levels of extreme poverty and hunger and to promote the necessary actions to impede the further deterioration of this grave situation. In this context, it should also support the efforts of the developing countries in the eradication of poverty and hunger.

"50. Member States should likewise support the developing countries in their efforts to strengthen the development of their human resources. In this connection, the inextricable link between education, acquisition of skills, technical training and economic growth and sustained development should be emphasized. International co-operation should also aim to support human resource development strategies in such vital and related areas as health, nutrition, employment and population.

"51. In this connection, multilateral financial institutions should review the structural adjustment programmes which have so far failed to redress fundamentally the economic decline, or lay the foundations in any meaningful sense for sustained recovery and economic transformation, and be

sensitive to the adverse impact of adjustment policies in vulnerable sectors of the population.

"52. The international community should extend its full support to the efforts made by the least developed countries to overcome their structural problems through increased development resources. It should also address the acute problems facing island and land-locked developing countries.

"53. The strengthening of international economic co-operation requires a more effective role of multilateral institutions and mechanisms. The United Nations as the unique forum in which the community of nations can address all issues in a comprehensive and integrated manner should enhance its role in setting the political guidelines for the revitalization of economic growth and development. The United Nations system is bound to play an ever-increasing role in economic and social fields, and should therefore be prepared to adapt to the needs of the Member States.

"54. The special session should draw attention to the 1990s as the year of challenge and opportunity to obtain fruitful results from the Conference on Least Developed Countries in Paris in 1990, the elaboration of the new international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade, the observance of the Decade for Reduction of Natural Disasters, the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, the convening of UNCTAD VIII in 1991, the Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 and the Conference on Population in 1994.

"55. The special session calls for tangible support from the international community for the implementation of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

"56. A comprehensive study should be undertaken by the Secretary-General, assisted by a group of experts, to include concrete proposals on all measures and additional resources required for the full implementation of the recommendations adopted by the special session, as well as all existing mandates in this area, and to report to the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

"57. We, the Member States, in concerted action and in a spirit of shared responsibility, commit ourselves to the achievement of our common goals."

11. At the 9th meeting, on 2 March, the representative of Canada made a statement in which she informed the Committee that her delegation had submitted a draft proposal entitled "Elements for a declaration of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries" (subsequently issued as document V/AC.233/L.6). The draft proposal read as follows:

"The world is embarking upon the last decade of the twentieth century cognizant of the profound changes that are affecting us all. Economically, the world is rapidly becoming one. This growing interdependence among nations challenges us all to respond creatively. Global integration requires countries to adopt sound national policies to facilitate open exchange and flexible responses to the changing world economy.

"In the context of this increasing interdependence and integration, a major challenge of the 1990s will be to help developing countries to become competitive in the world economy, to have access to markets and to science and technology, to improve the quality of their human capital and to modernize their economies. In a spirit of solidarity, Member States stand ready to forge an international understanding of the principles which will lead to accelerated economic growth and sustainable development.

"Developments in the countries of Eastern Europe mark a unique phase in our history, and there should be an international effort to support them in their integration into the international economy. The adhesion of these countries in the specialized institutions and their full participation in the world economy, which is of benefit to their own people and the world as a whole, should be accelerated.

"I. PRINCIPLES FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

"Each State and nation is responsible for its own economic policies for development and for the life and well-being of all its citizens.

"In an interdependent world the international community has a responsibility to assist developing countries in pursuing effective policies of development.

"All human beings have a basic right to a life free from hunger, poverty, ignorance, disease and fear. The reduction of poverty and greater equity in income distribution are major goals.

"We all share a joint responsibility for creating favourable international economic conditions and in strengthening international co-operation, which will help create the environment for sustainable economic growth.

"Effective multilateral institutions can and should, on the basis of open participation, effective rules and disciplines, be used to shape economic co-operation. They can be particularly important in involving all in a dialogue on appropriate policies.

"Economic growth requires that all countries develop a sustainable macro-economic framework and vigorously pursue long-term domestic economic reform programmes which would emphasize greater flexibility and openness of the economy, effective and efficient mobilization and use of financial and human resources and greater scope for private initiative and enterprise.

"It is essential to develop a more open, credible and durable multilateral trading system which can contribute effectively to the promotion of growth and development, taking due account of the specific needs of the developing countries, in accordance with the principles governing the Uruguay Round negotiations and the Punta del Este Declaration.

"II. LESSONS FROM THE PAST

"In the past decade an increasing convergence of views has emerged on key approaches to economic policies and problems. After the recession early in the decade, the industrialized countries resumed steady and uninterrupted growth. Considerable progress has been made in resolving imbalances, which for a time threatened stability in the world economy, although further progress remains to be made. Success is important if the world economy is to achieve a basis for further reductions in interest rates and deficits. The international community also recognizes the damaging impact of protectionism in all its forms and the importance of reducing it.

"For most developing countries the past decade has proven more difficult, especially for those with large external debts. The process of adjustment has been slow and hindered by declines in the terms of trade and export prices, which have made it more difficult to address the social consequence or to obtain the necessary political support for adjustment. This does not, however, obviate the need for policy reform. Other developing countries have been more successful in promoting growth and have been able to achieve considerable economic and social progress.

"We have learned from these experiences. As the world changes around us we must respond positively. The nature of the world economy is such that flexibility, creativity and innovation must be integral parts of our economic systems, otherwise competitiveness will be lost and stagnation will result. Sound national policies are the basis for sustainable economic growth and development. International economic co-operation and assistance are important to knit together the system and to help developing countries achieve their potential.

"III. POLICIES FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

"The reactivation of economic growth and development of developing countries will require concerted action by all countries. Success will depend upon sound strategies and policies and a strengthened partnership of developed and developing countries.

"Growth needs to be broadly based, drawing the masses of people into productive economic activity with effective, responsive and public decision-making systems. Improvement in the living standards of people, increased equity and broad participation requires the establishment of institutional frameworks and systems which provide larger choice and more opportunities.

"Developing countries have the responsibility for mobilizing their national resources fully and adopting sound and realistic macro-economic policies. They should continue to work towards keeping control over inflationary tendencies, encourage domestic savings with appropriate interest rate policies and raise their level of international competitiveness. Moreover, the developing countries should continue to encourage both domestic and foreign investment. There is a need to establish favourable domestic conditions for investment and capital formation and encourage enterprise, private initiative and risk-taking. Effective markets and appropriate pricing can improve the efficiency of resource allocation and promote investment.

"The developed countries and multilateral institutions should provide the necessary external resources to facilitate the structural reform process in developing countries and, in particular, assist the implementation of programmes designed to alleviate adverse consequences for the poor and vulnerable groups.

"In some countries the existence of a very large external debt has crippled the economy and threatened the development process. The debt can also render economic adjustment more difficult by undermining the essential political basis and commitment to reform. It is important that countries implementing growth-oriented reforms receive sufficient support and that the collaborative debt strategy be flexible enough to encourage the reforms essential to their economic recovery. Initiatives aimed at a reduction of the stock and service of debt of developing countries, as well as debt relief measures, should continue to be pursued in an effort to renew vigorous growth. A supportive international economic environment, together with a growth-oriented development approach will also assist debtor developing countries to restore their economies and credit-worthiness.

"We are especially concerned with preserving the environment for our children and future generations. This challenge is global in scope and requires effective international co-operation - a commitment to the environment must permeate all our endeavours. Economic development must be environmentally sound and sustainable. This is the responsibility of all peoples, their Governments, businesses, trade unions and individual citizens.

"The current threat to the environment, which is a common concern of all, stems essentially from past neglect in managing the natural environment and resources and from decades of industrial and other pollution. As the major sources of pollution and depletion of natural resources, the developed countries have a special responsibility for taking necessary measures urgently. The responsibility for improving the environment should be shared, sufficient resources made available and consideration given to providing access to technology so that developing countries can exercise their national responsibilities and manage their natural resources. The economic growth of developing countries is an essential prerequisite for environmental protection, because poverty is an important cause of deforestation and desertification. Excessive population growth adds to the strain.

"The most important economic asset of all countries is the people themselves. Our goal should be to enable every child, woman and man to live a full life, in dignity and free from suffering and want and according to their own ideas and preferences. It is of special importance to improve the integration of women in the development process.

"Sustained development depends upon the strength and quality of a country's institutions in all sectors of Government, schools, the judiciary, co-operatives, the financial sector and voluntary organizations. Effective institutional frameworks and predictable public administration are necessary to shape and foster other development initiatives.

"Education and training are prerequisites for economic growth, and it is an indispensable part of a successful economic policy that they be accessible to all people. Investments in education, training, health and other social

services, sanitation, housing and water are all essential if human resources and skills are to be fully developed.

"The full utilization of human resources also requires that human rights be guaranteed to each individual. A multiplicity of views and expression enriches every society by stimulating creativity, innovation and initiative and allowing these to be brought to fruition. Economic decision-making should be decentralized to advance efficiency.

"Substantial additional aid, other financial resources and export expansion will be required for developing countries to be able to cope with the challenges of the 1990s. All developed countries should assume their responsibility to supply to developing countries an adequate flow of official development assistance, striving to achieve international targets, including a level of 0.7 per cent of their gross national products for official development assistance. For aid to be effective we need to pay full attention to project quality and design and the appropriate policy environment.

"All countries should contribute to a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) which holds the prospect of significant market liberalization from which all will benefit. We must resist protectionist forces and work towards a stronger GATT which can more effectively promote an open trading system. Expansion and liberalization of trade in commodities would be of particular benefit to developing countries. All countries should strive to respond to changes in efficient world demand with innovation and diversification of their productive sectors.

"Commodity exports play a key role in the economies of developing countries and make a crucial contribution to export earnings and investment. There is a need for better functioning of commodity markets and more stable and predictable conditions. Diversification would assist the developing countries to increase and stabilize their export earnings. All countries and multilateral institutions should undertake measures to support these efforts.

"IV. CONCLUSION

"The United Nations is a unique forum in which the community of nations can address all issues in a comprehensive and integrated manner and, giving due regard to the respective competences of the specialized institutions, play a key role in setting the basis for the revitalization of economic growth and development.

"The Member States of the United Nations pledge their commitment to address the issues in this declaration of the special session through their national policies, international co-operation, in the elaboration of the international development strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade and in the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries."

C. Organization of work of the special session

12. At the 9th meeting, on 2 March, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Wang Baoliu (China), introduced and orally revised a draft recommendation submitted on the basis of informal consultations entitled "Provisional agenda and organizational matters". (The draft recommendation, as orally revised, was subsequently issued in document A/AC.233/L.4.)

13. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the draft recommendation, as orally revised (see para. 30).

D. Provisional agenda for the third session of the Preparatory Committee

14. At the 9th meeting, on 2 March, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Wang Baoliu (China), introduced and orally revised a draft decision submitted on the basis of informal consultations entitled "Provisional agenda for the third session of the Preparatory Committee". (The draft decision, as orally revised, was subsequently issued in document A/AC.233/L.5.)

15. The representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, proposed that a new sub-paragraph be added at the end of the draft decision to read "(c) To hold open-ended informal consultations before the convening of the third session of the Preparatory Committee". After a question by the representative of Tunisia, the Chairman informed the Preparatory Committee that the proposal presented by Canada would become available in all the official languages after the conclusion of the second session and that it would be formally considered at the Preparatory Committee's third session.

16. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the draft decision, as orally revised and amended (see para. 31).

III. MEETINGS OF THE THIRD SESSION

[to appear as A/S-18/7 (Part II)]

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE PREPARATORY
COMMITTEE AT ITS SECOND SESSION

A. Recommendations

Provisional agenda and organizational matters

30. The Preparatory Committee decides to recommend to the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session the adoption of the following provisional agenda and organization of work:

1. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Nigeria.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Credentials of representatives to the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly:
 - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President.
5. Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session.
6. Organization of the session.
7. Adoption of the agenda.
8. General debate.
9. International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries.

2. Structure of the special session

The General Assembly at its special session will convene in plenary to conduct a general debate and to allow heads of State or Government and ministers or heads of delegation to speak on the substantive item. It should establish an ad hoc committee of the whole to consider the item, taking into account the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee. The Ad Hoc Committee of the Eighteenth Special Session should have one Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. Every effort should be made to strive as far as possible towards consensus on matters of substance.

3. President

The special session should take place under the presidency of the President of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

4. Vice-Presidents

The Vice-Presidents of the special session should be the same as at the forty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly, on the understanding that regional groups may make substitutions of the Vice-Presidents allocated to each group.

5. Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee of the special session should have the same membership as the Credentials Committee of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

6. General Committee

The General Committee of the special session should consist of the President of the special session of the General Assembly; the 21 Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the seven Main Committees of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, on the understanding that those Chairmen may be substituted by members of their delegations or members of the delegations of States belonging to the same regional group; and the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the special session.

7. Rules of procedure

The rules of procedure of the General Assembly should apply at the special session.

8. Level of representation

Member States should be represented at the special session at the highest possible political level.

9. General debate

Item 9 of the provisional agenda should be included in the general debate (item 8). Participation in plenary meetings should be in accordance with the established rules and practice of the General Assembly.

10. Allocation of items

It is recommended that item 9 of the provisional agenda be allocated to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Eighteenth Special Session for consideration.

11. Participation

Participation shall be as follows:

(a) On the basis of specific requests, observer non-member States should be invited to participate in the general debate in the plenary meeting;

(b) The Executive Heads of the concerned United Nations specialized agencies should be invited to participate in the general debate in the plenary meeting. Each statement should not exceed 10 minutes;

(c) Interested intergovernmental organizations having received a standing invitation to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly should be invited to participate in the general debate in the plenary meeting. Each statement should not exceed 10 minutes;

(d) A representative of one non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council could address the Ad Hoc Committee on behalf of interested non-governmental organizations. Such a statement should not exceed 10 minutes;

(e) The Preparatory Committee recommends that the Assembly at its special session take a decision to invite, on the basis of specific requests, other relevant intergovernmental and interregional organizations of an economic nature to participate and speak on an ad hoc basis during the session. Such statements should not exceed 10 minutes.

B. Decisions

Date and provisional agenda for the third session of the Preparatory Committee

31. The Preparatory Committee decides:

(a) That the third and final session of the Preparatory Committee shall take place from 16 to 20 April 1990;

(b) To approve the following provisional agenda for its third session:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries: consideration of the proposed final document to be adopted by the special session.
3. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee for submission to the special session.

(c) To hold open-ended informal consultations before the convening of the third session of the Preparatory Committee.

ANNEX

List of participants

Member States

Afghanistan	Germany, Federal	Paraguay
Algeria	Republic of	Peru
Argentina	Ghana	Philippines
Australia	Greece	Poland
Austria	Guatemala	Portugal
Bahamas	Guinea	Romania
Bahrain	Guinea-Bissau	Rwanda
Bangladesh	Guyana	Saudi Arabia
Barbados	Haiti	Senegal
Belgium	Hungary	Seychelles
Benin	Iceland	Sierra Leone
Bhutan	India	Singapore
Bolivia	Indonesia	Somalia
Botswana	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Spain
Brazil	Iraq	Sri Lanka
Brunei Darussalam	Ireland	Sudan
Bulgaria	Israel	Suriname
Burkina Faso	Italy	Sweden
Burundi	Jamaica	Syrian Arab Republic
Byelorussian Soviet	Japan	Thailand
Socialist Republic	Jordan	Togo
Cameroon	Kenya	Trinidad and Tobago
Canada	Lao People's Democratic	Tunisia
Cape Verde	Republic	Turkey
Chile	Lesotho	Uganda
China	Liberia	Ukrainian Soviet
Colombia	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Socialist Republic
Comoros	Luxembourg	Union of Soviet
Congo	Madagascar	Socialist Republics
Costa Rica	Malawi	United Arab Emirates
Côte d'Ivoire	Malaysia	United Kingdom of Great
Cuba	Mali	Britain and Northern
Cyprus	Mauritania	Ireland
Czechoslovakia	Mauritius	United Republic of
Democratic Yemen	Mexico	Tanzania
Denmark	Mongolia	United States of America
Djibouti	Morocco	Uruguay
Dominican Republic	Mozambique	Vanuatu
Ecuador	Myanmar	Venezuela
Egypt	Netherlands	Viet Nam
Ethiopia	New Zealand	Yemen
Fiji	Nigeria	Yugoslavia
Finland	Norway	Zaire
France	Oman	Zambia
Gabon	Pakistan	Zimbabwe
Germany, Democratic		
Republic		

Non-member States represented by observers

Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Holy See
Republic of Korea
Switzerland

Specialized agencies

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
World Health Organization
World Bank
International Monetary Fund
World Intellectual Property Organization
United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Intergovernmental organizations represented by an observer

African Development Bank
Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee
Commission of the European Communities
Latin American Economic System
Organization of American States
Organization of the Islamic Conference



General Assembly

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Eighteenth special session

REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION*

* The present document, which is being issued in two parts, is a mimeographed version of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session on the work of its second and third sessions. The report will subsequently be issued as Official Records of General Assembly, Eighteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/S-18/7).

III. MEETINGS OF THE THIRD SESSION*

A. Organization of meetings

1. Opening and duration of the third session

17. The Preparatory Committee held its third session at United Nations Headquarters from 16 to 20 April 1990. The Committee held five meetings (10th to 14th) and a number of informal consultations during that period. In accordance with the decision taken at the second session, informal consultations were also held prior to the convening of the third session of the Preparatory Committee.

18. On 17 April 1990, the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee opened the session.

2. Attendance

19. In accordance with General Assembly decision 43/460, the Preparatory Committee was open to the participation of all Member States. A list of participants is contained in the annex to the present report.

3. Election of officers

20. At its 10th meeting, on 17 April, the Preparatory Committee elected Mr. Eduard Kukan (Czechoslovakia) as Vice-Chairman of the Committee to replace Mr. Zapotocky (Czechoslovakia) who had resigned. The other officers elected at the organizational session of the Preparatory Committee also served during the third session.

4. Adoption of the agenda

21. Also at its 10th meeting, the Preparatory Committee considered the provisional agenda for the session (A/AC.233/6). On the proposal of the Chairman, the Preparatory Committee decided to include two new items, namely, a new item entitled "Election of officers" between items 1 and 2, and a new item entitled "Organization of work of the special session" between items 3 and 4.

22. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the following agenda for the session, as orally amended:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries.

* For sections I and II, see A/S-18/7 (Part I).

4. Organization of work of the special session.
5. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee for submission to the special session.

5. Documentation

23. The Preparatory Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Provisional agenda (A/AC.233/6);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the state of international economic co-operation and effective ways and means of revitalizing the economic growth and development of developing countries (A/AC.233/5 and Corr.1);

(c) Proposal submitted by Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, entitled "Draft declaration on the special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries" (A/AC.233/L.3);

(d) Proposal submitted by Canada entitled "Elements for a declaration of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries" (A/AC.233/L.6);

(e) Proposal submitted by Ireland, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community, entitled "Draft declaration on the special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries" (A/AC.233/L.8).

B. International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries

24. At the 10th meeting, the representative of Canada introduced the draft proposal entitled "Elements for a declaration of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries" (A/AC.233/L.6) (see para. 11).

25. At the 11th meeting, on 18 April, the representative of Ireland, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community, introduced a draft proposal (A/AC.233/L.8) entitled "Draft declaration on the special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries", which read as follows:

Proposal submitted by Ireland

"We, the States Members of the United Nations

"1. Reaffirm that the principal aim of international economic co-operation is to bring about the framework required to allow each individual human being to lead a life of dignity, based on freedom from intolerance, discrimination, oppression, exploitation, illiteracy and poverty, and, to that end;

"2. Adopt the following Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, which sets out the basic principles for the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries:

"1. We affirm that the reduction of international political tensions, the increasing globalization of world economic activity and the growing convergence of views on political and economic issues together enable the United Nations to play a more effective role in tackling the problems faced by the developing countries. In fulfilling this role, the United Nations should take full account of the diversity of situations facing individual countries and work to devise realistic and flexible approaches which benefit all individuals, especially the poorest in the developing countries.

"2. We emphasize the need to bring about sustainable, non-inflationary economic growth in all countries. Effective national policies have a critical role to play in achieving this objective. Such policies should be outward- and market-oriented. They should be supportive of investment as well as of efficient allocation and mobilization of resources to achieve durable growth and development. For many developing countries, in particular the least developed, national policies, in parallel with international co-operation in this field, must over time seek to diversify the economic base, thereby lessening their dependence on primary commodities. The multilateral development agencies have a crucial role in assisting developing countries design and implement effective national policies.

"3. We affirm that a supportive international environment is crucial to the success of effective national policies. To this end, existing economic imbalances and monetary instability in the industrialized world, which, inter alia, affect the level of interest rates, must be tackled decisively. The achievement of this objective would facilitate increases in resource flows to developing countries and would contribute to a solution of existing debt problems. These problems negatively affect many developing countries and their resolution continues to require innovative approaches.

"4. We recognize that the full mobilization of the human resources of developing countries is crucial to successful development. To this end, there exists the need to support movement towards pluralistic institutions which guarantee equitable development and human rights. Universal access to basic health, education and shelter is crucial. The full and equal involvement of women in the development process will act as an important spur to successful development. Particular attention must be paid to the rate of population growth so as to allow sustainable development.

"5. We recognize the critical importance of an open multilateral trading system. In this regard, efforts must continue to bring about a system that allows the developing countries to benefit further from their areas of comparative advantage. We pledge our determination to work to achieve a successful, balanced and comprehensive outcome to the Uruguay Round. Regional co-operation among developing countries in trade, technical and other forms of economic activity can contribute to a strengthened multilateral trading system.

"6. We jointly commit ourselves to the protection of our common environmental heritage. We recognize that environmental sustainability is central to development. Much of the damage caused to the environment results from patterns of consumption and production in the developed countries. The developed countries must provide additional resources and the appropriate technologies to combat environmental degradation. All countries will increasingly need to integrate environmental concerns into their national development policies.

"7. We reaffirm that substantial resources will be required to support the development process in the years ahead. The developed countries reaffirm their commitment to work to attain the accepted targets set by the United Nations of devoting 0.7 per cent of their gross national product to official development assistance and 0.15 per cent to the least developed countries. In addition, the developed countries stress their determination to improve the quality of the aid they provide. They emphasize that the level of their official development assistance to the developing world will not be negatively affected by their efforts in support of the process of reform in Eastern Europe.

"8. We emphasize that the elaboration of these principles establishes a new agenda for the United Nations based on a global view of the challenges of the 1990s. We affirm that the present Declaration can provide a framework for the successful completion of the work of forthcoming United Nations Conferences, commencing with the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Paris in September 1990."

26. At its 14th meeting, on 20 April, the Preparatory Committee decided to submit a text as a basis for the preparation of the final document of the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session, as well as a compilation of proposals for the introduction to the final document (see para. 33). At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman, as amended by the representative of Algeria, decided to take note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of international economic co-operation and effective ways and means of revitalizing the economic growth and development of developing countries (A/AC.223/5 and Corr.1) (see para. 33).

C. Organization of work of the special session

27. Also at its 14th meeting, after statements by representatives of regional groups, the Preparatory Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session elect as members of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee the same officers as those of the Preparatory Committee (see draft decision I, para. 32).

28. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided to recommend arrangements concerning the organization of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee (see draft decision II, para. 32).

D. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee
for submission to the special session

29. At its 10th, 12th and 14th meetings, on 17, 19 and 20 April, the Preparatory Committee considered and adopted the draft report on its second and third sessions (A/AC.233/L.7 and L.9), as orally amended.

[for section IV, see A/S-18/7 (Part I), paras. 30-31]

V. RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE PREPARATORY
COMMITTEE AT ITS THIRD SESSION

A. Recommendations

32. The Preparatory Committee decides to recommend to the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I

Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session

The General Assembly at its eighteenth special session decides to elect the following officers as members of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session:

Chairman: Mr. Constantine ZEPOS (Greece)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Ahmed GHEZAL (Tunisia)
Mr. Eduard KUKAN (Czechoslovakia)
Mr. WANG Baoli (China)

Rapporteur: Mr. Samuel R. INSANALLY (Guyana)

Draft decision II

Organization of work of the Ad Hoc Committee of the
Eighteenth Special Session

The General Assembly at its eighteenth special session decides:

(a) That the Ad Hoc Committee of the Eighteenth Special Session shall begin its work at 3 p.m. on Monday, 23 April 1990, and devote that afternoon only to hearing statements by representatives, wishing to do so, of United Nations organs, organizations and programmes, and a representative of one non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council on behalf of interested non-governmental organizations;

(b) That the time-limit for such statements shall not exceed 10 minutes;

(c) That the list of speakers addressing the Ad Hoc Committee under item 9 of the agenda shall be closed at 1 p.m. on Monday, 23 April;

(d) That the remaining organizational matters relating to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee shall be decided upon by the Ad Hoc Committee itself at its first meeting.

B. Decisions

33. At its 14th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the following decisions:

Decision I

International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries

1. The Preparatory Committee submits the following text* as a basis for the preparation of the final document of the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session:

ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE 1980s

1. In the last decade, the world economy has been characterized by relatively slow growth and by global financial and trade imbalances. Within this overall picture, the socio-economic experiences of countries and groups of countries have been diverse.

(A/AC.233/L.3, para. 6)

2. Developed market-oriented countries have achieved steadier though slower growth. This has been accompanied by (unprecedentedly large) external and fiscal imbalances in the countries whose economies have the largest impact on the world economy and great instability in international markets. The result has been unstable exchange rates and high interest rates.

(L.3, paras. 6 and 7)

3. Most developing countries, especially those with large external debts, have encountered serious difficulties in their attempt to adapt to structural changes and to benefit from the economic growth of industrialized countries. Living conditions in most developing countries, particularly in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, have deteriorated in comparison to the (1960s and) 1970s. Economic and social infrastructure, painfully built over the years, has eroded seriously, impairing prospects for growth and development. For these regions, the 1980s have been viewed as a decade lost for development. Other developing countries have been more successful in promoting growth and have been able to achieve considerable economic and social progress.

(L.3, para. 11; L.6, sect. II, second para.)

* For the text of document A/AC.233/L.3, see part I, para. 10, of the present report. For the text of document A/AC.233/L.6, see part I, para. 11. For the text of document A/AC.233/L.8, see para. 25 of the present report.

4. The role of developing countries in international trade and finance has substantially decreased, further widening the gap between those countries and the developed ones. The external indebtedness of developing countries has worsened during this period and has been a principal cause of their economic stalemate, impeding their economic growth and development. This problem has been aggravated by high interest rates and has contributed to the lack of investment and the cessation of new financial flows.

(L.3, paras. 10 and 12)

5. There has also been a deterioration in the terms of trade of the developing countries, particularly a long-term downward trend in the prices of commodities, with devastating effects for commodity-dependent developing countries. These factors have resulted in a massive negative transfer of resources from the developing to the developed countries, depriving the former of much-needed resources for their economic growth and development. They have also hindered the process of adjustment and have made it more difficult to address the social consequences and to obtain the necessary political support for adjustment.

(L.3, paras. 13 and 14; L.6, sect. II, second para.)

6. Eastern European countries were not appropriately involved in the world economic system. These countries faced the problems of adaptation to scientific, technological and structural changes taking place in the world economy. The need for comprehensive reform and transformation grew. Fundamental political and economic changes in these countries during the 1980s have opened new challenges and opportunities for the 1990s.

(USSR proposal; alternative Canadian text also proposed)

7. We have learned from these experiences. As the world changes around us, we must respond positively. The nature of the world economy is such that flexibility, creativity and innovation must be integral parts of our economic systems. Sound national policies are the basis for sustainable economic growth and development. International economic co-operation and assistance are important to knit together the system and to help developing countries achieve their potential.

(L.6, sect. II, third para.)

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE 1990s

8. The world is embarking upon the last decade of the twentieth century cognizant of the profound changes that are affecting us all. Economically, the world is rapidly becoming one. This growing interdependence among nations challenges us all to respond creatively.

(L.6, introduction, first para.)

9. The revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries in the context of sustained and sustainable growth of the world economy and with favourable external conditions remains the most important challenge for the 1990s.

(China, Norway)

10. This major challenge for the 1990s should be confronted in the context of increasing interdependence and integration of the world economy in order to create favourable economic conditions through intensified international co-operation and greater international solidarity with the ultimate aim of rendering the dichotomy between developed and developing countries obsolete.

(L.3, para. 17; Turkey; L.6; introduction, second para.)

11. Economic growth in developing countries depends on the existence of an international economic environment where all countries can exert their competitiveness through access to open markets and to science and technology and where they can succeed in improving the quality of their human capital and modernize their economies.

(L.3, para. 18; L.6, introduction, second para.; Australia)

12. The States Members of the United Nations should seek to reverse the adverse trends of the 1980s and reach agreement in addressing adequately the pressing interrelated problems of money, finance, trade and development. In this context a supportive international environment is crucial. To this end, existing economic imbalances and monetary instability in the industrialized world, which, inter alia, affect the level of interest rates, must be tackled decisively. The achievement of this objective would facilitate increases in resource flows to developing countries and would contribute to a solution of existing debt problems. These problems negatively affect many developing countries and their resolution continues to require innovative approaches.

(L.3, para. 19; L.8, para. 3; European Community, United States, USSR)

13. Global integration requires countries to adopt policies to facilitate open exchange and flexible responses to the changing world economy. Effective national policies have a critical role to play in achieving sustainable, non-inflationary economic growth in all countries. However, a supportive international environment is indispensable for their success. National policies should be outward- and market-oriented. They should be supportive of investment as well as of efficient allocation and mobilization of resources to achieve durable growth and sustainable and environmentally sound development. For many developing countries, in particular the least developed, national policies, in parallel with international co-operation in this field, must over time seek to diversify the economic base, thereby lessening their dependence on primary commodities.

(L.6, introduction, first para.; L.8, para. 2)

14. Regional economic integration represents an important mechanism for expanding trade and investment in developed and developing countries and efforts should be encouraged in that direction. Trade liberalization in the European Economic Community and between the United States and Canada should aim to generate positive impulses for world trade and development and to be free of protectionism. In this context, all countries are determined to achieve a successful, balanced and comprehensive outcome to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, recognizing the critical importance of an open multilateral trading system.

(L.3, para. 20; European Community; Japan; L.8, para. 5)

15. Developments in the countries of Eastern Europe mark a unique phase in our history, and there should be an international effort to support them in their integration into the international economy. This process should strengthen their potential for growth and development, contribute towards international economic co-operation, facilitate their participation in the solution of global problems and open new opportunities for export markets of developing countries.

(L.3, para. 21; L.6, introduction, third para.; European Community; Poland)

16. The full mobilization of the human resources of developing countries is crucial to successful development. To this end, there exists the need to support movement towards pluralistic institutions that guarantee equitable development and human rights. Universal access to basic health, education and shelter is crucial. The full and equal involvement of women in the development process will act as an important spur to successful development. Particular attention must be paid to the rate of population growth so as to allow sustainable development.

(L.8, para. 4)

17. The reduction of international political tensions, the increasing globalization of world economic activity and the growing convergence of views on political and economic issues together will enable the United Nations to play a more effective role in tackling the problems faced by the developing countries. In fulfilling this role, the United Nations should take full account of the diversity of situations facing individual countries and work to devise realistic and flexible approaches that benefit all individuals, especially the poorest in the developing countries.

(L.8, para. 1)

18. Economic development must be environmentally sound and sustainable. This is the responsibility of all peoples, their Governments, businesses, trade unions and individual citizens. All countries will increasingly need to integrate environmental concerns into their national development policies.

(L.6, sect. III, sixth para.)

19. The current threat to the environment, which is a common concern of all, stems essentially from past neglect and from decades of industrial and other pollution. The responsibility for improving the environment should be shared. Much of the damage caused to the environment results from patterns of production and consumption in the developed countries, which have a special responsibility for taking necessary measures urgently. Poverty and excessive population growth are important causes of environmental degradation, and growth and development in developing countries are required for the promotion of environmental protection. The protection of the environment should make growth and development sustainable and should not result in new restrictions on development. Sufficient financial, scientific and technological resources should be made available to developing countries so that they can adequately address their environmental problems, manage their natural resources and participate effectively in efforts to protect and improve the global environment. The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development must contribute to the adoption of correct and adequate measures, not only on the national level but also on the international level.

(L.6, 7, sect. III, seventh para.; L.3, para. 22; L.8, para. 6)

COMMITMENTS AND POLICIES FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

20. To reactivate international development will require a concerted effort by all countries. The present opportunity to restore a long-term approach to development and move beyond short-term adjustment must be seized. The Members of the United Nations will jointly take the steps that are called for to reverse the negative trends of the 1980s, each in accordance with its capacity and its impact on the international economy. The success of this endeavour will depend upon sound strategies and policies and a strengthened partnership of developed and developing countries.

(L.3, paras. 23-25; L.6, sect. III, first para.)

21. Each Member State is responsible for its own development and the welfare of its people, but external conditions can be favourable or adverse to development efforts. International economic relations must be conducive to the reactivation of economic growth.

(L.3, paras. 24-26, and United States)

22. The major industrialized countries influence world economic growth and the international economic environment profoundly. They must seek to correct their imbalances in a coherent manner which does not produce drastic declines in world trade. The co-ordination of economic policies should allow for meaningful participation of all countries and should take full account of the concerns of developing countries.

(L.3, paras. 27-29)

23. Developing countries have to mobilize their national resources fully, control inflation by realistic economic policies, promote domestic savings and encourage domestic and foreign investment in accordance with their own development objectives and national priorities. They should encourage enterprise and private initiative in order to promote their modernization and increase their international competitiveness.

(L.3, paras. 30-31; L.6, sect. III, second and third paras.)

24. Growth and development in developing countries are only possible with increased equity, broad participation and a widening choice of opportunities. Economic policies should have as their main objective the betterment of the human condition. The eradication of poverty must be a primary objective, strongly supported by Governments and by external concessional resources. The poor constitute a major underutilized resource, and no effort should be spared to combat poverty and integrate the whole population in productive social activities.

(L.3, paras. 48-49, and Norway)

25. The most important asset of all countries is their people. The goal must be to enable every child, woman and man to live a full life in dignity, free from suffering and want. Education, health, nutrition, employment, and family planning are essential and call for international co-operation.

(L.3, para. 50, and Canada)

26. In many developing countries the external debt became excessive in the 1980s when the demand for their exports declined and interest rates rose. The recurring debt negotiations have resulted in grave instability and uncertainty. They have in many cases crippled the economy and reversed the development process. The debt crisis has reversed the net flows of resources to developing countries. Initiatives to reduce the debt and debt service of countries must aim at a prompt resumption of growth and development and the restoration of their credit-worthiness.

(L.3, paras. 32-33; European Community; L.6, sect. III, fifth para.)

27. Substantial external resources will be called for to enable developing countries, especially the least developed ones, to cope with the challenges of the 1990s. The developed countries reaffirm their commitment to enhance their aid and to attain the agreed international target of devoting 0.7 per cent of their gross national product to official development assistance and at least 0.15 per cent to the least developed countries.

(L.3, para. 34; L.6, sect. III, twelfth para.; L.8, para. 7)

28. The multilateral institutions have to be enabled to provide the resources that structural reform requires and to assist in programmes designed to alleviate adverse consequences of adjustment for poor and vulnerable groups.

(L.3, para. 36; L.6, sect. III, fourth para.)

29. The financial resources released from reductions in military expenditure in the 1990s should in part be channelled into international development, and the feasibility of a United Nations "disarmament for development fund" should be explored. The reduction of military expenditure in developing countries is equally urgent.

(L.3, para. 37 and Japan)

30. An open and credible multilateral trading system is essential for the promotion of growth and development. The slide towards unilateralism and bilateralism and the erosion of the multilaterally agreed norms must be arrested. Protectionist forces must be resisted.

(L.3, paras. 39-40 and amendments)

31. Many developing countries depend on commodity exports and have suffered from the fall in commodity prices in recent years. They should be assisted by efforts to make commodity markets more stable and predictable and by intensive efforts of diversification, enhanced productivity and local processing.

(L.3, para. 41, European Community, Norway, and Canada; L.6, sect. III, fourteenth para.)

32. Developing countries should strive to promote and strengthen economic and technical co-operation among themselves. They should be effectively supported by the developed countries, as well as the international organizations.

(L.3, para. 44)

33. Eastern European countries should be supported in their efforts to integrate themselves into the international market economy, but this must not result in a diversion of resources from international development assistance. The adhesion of those countries in the specialized agencies of the United Nations system should be accelerated. It will strengthen the role of Eastern Europe as a dynamic trade partner and as a market and source of technology.

(L.3, para. 45, and USSR)

34. The transfer of scientific and technological knowledge to developing countries and the development of their endogenous capacity in these fields are essential to the development process, and restrictions on the access of developing countries to science and technology should be eliminated.

(L.3, para. 47)

35. The United Nations system will have a large role to play in international developing co-operation in the 1990s, and all its Member States have a responsibility in making it more effective and efficient. The United Nations is the only forum in which the community of nations can address all issues in a comprehensive manner. Its many specialized agencies serve indispensable roles in international development. They have great responsibilities in the great task of revitalizing growth and development in the 1990s.

(L.3, paras. 51-53 and amendments)

36. Member States pledge their commitment to address earnestly the issues of international development in the forthcoming Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, in the elaboration of a new international development strategy, in the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held in 1991, in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in 1992, and the conference on population, to be held in 1994.

(L.3, para. 54; L.8, para. 8)

* * *

2. The Preparatory Committee also submits the following compilation of proposals for the introduction to the final document of the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session:

COMPILATION OF PROPOSALS FOR THE INTRODUCTION

A. Introduction to the proposal submitted by Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77*

We, the Member States of the United Nations having met at the Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries, have decided to undertake a commitment through the following

DECLARATION

To develop a new global covenant to promote international economic co-operation for the growth of the world economy and in particular, the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries, based on the following considerations:

1. Recognition by the international community that in an increasingly interdependent world, the developing countries can play an important role in the stabilization, growth and expansion of the world economy, for the progress and prosperity of all peoples.
2. The existence of two thirds of the world population doomed to a life of deprivation and abject poverty cannot continue.
3. Recognition of the need to strongly support the efforts of the developing countries in solving their grave economic and social problems through the creation of a favourable international economic environment.
4. Initiation of an enlightened and vigorous international economic co-operation based on heightened awareness of the urgent need to provide just and equal opportunities to all peoples and to help them develop their full potential within their own values, in full exercise of their sovereign rights.
5. The necessity of shaping and directing the outcome of the momentous events currently under way, towards a positive transformation in international relations among nations leading to a more interdependent, and integrated world, free from intolerance and discrimination, hunger and disease, oppression and exploitation, illiteracy and poverty, and above all, war and conflict. In this context, we stress the need to utilize the peace dividend to promote the objectives and commitment contained in this Declaration.

* The proposal was circulated under the symbol A/AC.233/L.3 (see also part I, para. 10, of the present report).

B. Section I of the proposal submitted by Canada*

I. PRINCIPLES FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Each State and nation is responsible for its own economic policies for development and for the life and well-being of all its citizens.

In an interdependent world the international community has a responsibility to assist developing countries in pursuing effective policies of development.

All human beings have a basic right to a life free from hunger, poverty, ignorance, disease and fear. The reduction of poverty and greater equity in income distribution are major goals.

We all share a joint responsibility for creating favourable international economic conditions and in strengthening international co-operation, which will help create the environment for sustainable economic growth.

Effective multilateral institutions can and should, on the basis of open participation, effective rules and disciplines, be used to shape economic co-operation. They can be particularly important in involving all in a dialogue on appropriate policies.

Economic growth requires that all countries develop a sustainable macro-economic framework and vigorously pursue long-term domestic economic reform programmes which would emphasize greater flexibility and openness of the economy, effective and efficient mobilization and use of financial and human resources and greater scope for private initiative and enterprise.

It is essential to develop a more open, credible and durable multilateral trading system which can contribute effectively to the promotion of growth and development, taking due account of the specific needs of the developing countries, in accordance with the principles governing the Uruguay Round negotiations and the Punta del Este Declaration.

* The proposal was circulated under the symbol A/AC.233/L.6 (see also part I, para. 11, of the present report).

C. Introduction to the proposal submitted by Ireland, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community*

We, the States Members of the United Nations

1. Reaffirm that the principal aim of international economic co-operation is to bring about the framework required to allow each individual human being to lead a life of dignity, based on freedom from intolerance, discrimination, oppression, exploitation, illiteracy and poverty, and, to that end;

2. Adopt the following Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, which sets out the basic principles for the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries:

* The proposal was circulated under the symbol A/AC.233/L.8 (see also para. 25 of the present report).

D. Introduction submitted by China

Solemnly proclaim our strong determination and commitment to develop a new global consensus to promote international economic co-operation for sustained and sustainable growth of the world economy and in particular, the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries, and to that end, declare:

1. The economic stagnation and retrogression in the majority of developing countries and the existence of deprivation and abject poverty of two thirds of the world population cannot continue.
2. In an increasingly interdependent world, developing countries can play an important role in the stabilization and accelerated growth of the world economy. The revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries must be at the top of the international economic agenda.
3. Each State and nation is responsible for its own economic policies for development in accordance with its specific situations and conditions and for the life and well-being of all its citizens.
4. The international community has a responsibility to strongly support the efforts of the developing countries in solving their grave economic and social problems through the creation of a favourable international economic environment.
5. Enlightened and vigorous international economic co-operation based on the urgent need to provide just and equal opportunities to all peoples and to help them develop their full potential is of paramount importance in our efforts to strive for a new and more dynamic international economic relations.

E. Introduction submitted by the United States of America

1. We recognize the existence of deprivation and abject poverty.
2. We recognize that, in an increasingly interdependent world, the developing countries can play an important role in the growth and expansion of the world economy for the progress and prosperity of all peoples.
3. We recognize the need to strongly support the efforts of all countries to develop and implement appropriate growth and market-oriented economic policies.
4. We recognize the need of all countries to implement policies which take due account of their individual national obligations to the international economic system.

* * *

Decision II

The Preparatory Committee takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of international economic co-operation and effective ways and means of revitalizing economic growth and development of developing countries (A/AC.233/5 and Corr.1).

ANNEX

List of participants

Member States

Afghanistan	Germany, Federal	Paraguay
Algeria	Republic of	Peru
Argentina	Ghana	Philippines
Australia	Greece	Poland
Austria	Guatemala	Portugal
Bahamas	Guinea Bissau	Romania
Bahrain	Guyana	Rwanda
Bangladesh	Haiti	Saudi Arabia
Barbados	Hungary	Senegal
Belgium	Iceland	Seychelles
Belize	India	Sierra Leone
Bhutan	Indonesia	Singapore
Bolivia	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Somalia
Botswana	Iraq	Spain
Brazil	Ireland	Sri Lanka
Brunei Darussalam	Israel	Sudan
Bulgaria	Italy	Suriname
Burkina Faso	Jamaica	Sweden
Burundi	Japan	Syrian Arab Republic
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Jordan	Thailand
Cameroon	Kenya	Togo
Canada	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Trinidad and Tobago
Cape Verde	Lesotho	Tunisia
Chile	Liberia	Turkey
China	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Uganda
Colombia	Luxembourg	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Comoros	Madagascar	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Congo	Malawi	United Arab Emirates
Côte d'Ivoire	Malaysia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Cuba	Mali	United Republic of Tanzania
Cyprus	Mauritania	United States of America
Czechoslovakia	Mauritius	Uruguay
Democratic Yemen	Mexico	Vanuatu
Denmark	Mongolia	Venezuela
Djibouti	Morocco	Viet Nam
Ecuador	Mozambique	Yemen
Egypt	Myanmar	Yugoslavia
Ethiopia	Netherlands	Zaire
Fiji	New Zealand	Zambia
Finland	Nigeria	Zimbabwe
France	Norway	
German Democratic Republic	Oman	
	Pakistan	

Non-member States represented by observers

Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Holy See
Republic of Korea
Switzerland

Specialized agencies

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
World Health Organization
World Bank
International Monetary Fund
World Intellectual Property Organization
United Nations Industrial Development Organization

* * *

International Atomic Energy Agency
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

Intergovernmental organizations represented by an observer

African Development Bank
Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee
Commission of the European Communities
Latin American Economic System
Organization of American States
Organization of the Islamic Conference



General Assembly

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Eighteenth special session

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT
OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 23 April 1990 from the Secretary-General
to the President of the General Assembly

At present, 10 Member States are in arrears in accordance with Article 19 of the Charter, which states as follows:

"A Member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The General Assembly may, nevertheless, permit such a Member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member."

The minimum payments necessary to reduce the amounts owed by those Member States on their contributions so that they remain below the gross amount owed for the preceding two full years (1988-1989) are the following:

	<u>US dollars</u>
Burundi	35 100
Dominican Republic	231 000
Equatorial Guinea	62 400
Guatemala	99 300
Liberia	65 900
Nicaragua	76 300
Peru	333 432
Sao Tome and Principe	73 400
Sierra Leone	55 400
South Africa	39 203 700

(Signed) Javier PEREZ DE CUELLAR
Secretary-General



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SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 27 April 1990 from the Secretary-General to
the President of the General Assembly

With reference to my letter dated 23 April 1990 (A/S-18/8), I have the honour to inform you that Peru has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

(Signed) Javier PEREZ DE CUELLAR
Secretary-General



General Assembly

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Eighteenth special session

AGENDA OF THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Adopted by the General Assembly at its first
plenary meeting, on 23 April 1990

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Nigeria.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Credentials of representatives to the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly:
 - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President.
5. Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session.
6. Organization of the session.
7. Adoption of the agenda.
8. General debate.
9. International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries.
10. Admission of new Members to the United Nations.



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Eighteenth special session
Agenda item 3

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter dated 23 April 1990 from the Permanent Representatives of
the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia and Viet Nam to
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In the name of the State of Cambodia and our own countries, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Mongolian People's Republic and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, we wish to express the most explicit reservations about the presence of the delegation of the "National Government of Cambodia" at the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries.

The "National Government of Cambodia", whose main component is represented by the clique of the genocidal Pol Pot régime, which has been rejected by all the Cambodian people and which is universally condemned for committing the most heinous crimes of genocide in the history of mankind, does not deserve to be represented in our Organization. Moreover, it has no capital and controls practically no viable territory in the country. The continuing occupation of the Cambodian seat in the United Nations by the "National Government of Cambodia" will only impede the progress in the search for a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem.

On the other hand, the Government of the State of Cambodia, with its headquarters at Phnom Penh, the capital, was formed as the result of regular legislative elections and exercises full competence over the entire territory of Cambodia, deserves to be recognized by the international community and has the legitimate right to represent the Cambodian people in the United Nations and other international organizations.

We should be grateful if you could have the present letter circulated as an official document of the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly under agenda item 3.

(Signed) Saly KHAMSY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Lao People's Democratic
Republic to the United Nations

(Signed) Mangalyn DUGERSUREN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Mongolian People's Republic
to the United Nations

(Signed) TRINH XUAN LANG
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Socialist Republic of
Viet Nam to the United Nations



General Assembly

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Eighteenth special session
Agenda item 10

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 23 April 1990 from the Permanent Representative of
Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to request you to have the attached message from the Government of Mexico concerning the admission of the Republic of Namibia to membership in the United Nations distributed under agenda item 10 of the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Jorge MONTAÑO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement by the Government of Mexico on the occasion of the admission
of the Republic of Namibia to membership in the United Nations

The admission of the Republic of Namibia to membership in the United Nations on 23 April 1990, during the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly, whereby that country becomes the 160th member of our Organization, is a source of pride and genuine satisfaction to the Government of Mexico. As Namibia takes its rightful place within the community of independent nations, the long struggle waged by the Namibian people in search of self-determination and independence is vindicated.

The independence of Namibia, achieved on 21 March 1990, marks the successful culmination of a long process in which the Namibian people steadfastly demonstrated its unwavering desire to decide its own destiny and enter the community of nations as a sovereign State, free of colonial oppression and racial segregation. Likewise, the long and difficult process of independence in Namibia also represents a victory for the international community, reaffirming the fundamental principles of international law and peaceful coexistence. Namibia's admission to membership in the United Nations holds out the hope that those peoples that have yet to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination successfully may soon see their desires fulfilled.

We are confident that Namibia, as an independent State, will join together with those States that are committed to the promotion of the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations. Namibia's admission to membership in the United Nations is another step forward on the route to a more harmonious and just international society. The Government of Mexico is convinced that the presence of the Republic of Namibia within the United Nations will strengthen our Organization, and offers to work in solidarity with the new Member in the search for a better world for our peoples, both at the multilateral level and in the context of our bilateral relations.



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Eighteenth special session
Agenda item 3CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL
SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter dated 24 April 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Once again, Viet Nam, through its servant and allies, has made reservations on the credentials of the delegation of Cambodia at the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular to the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries (A/S-18/10). Those reservations constitute yet another attempt on the part of Viet Nam to deceive the world community into taking steps to legitimize its conquest of Cambodia. They are part and parcel of Viet Nam's strategy to recreate a new Indo-Chinese empire under Hanoi's domination that it has pursued for more than half a century through all means. It should be noted that those reservations have been made at a time when Vietnamese and Phnom Penh régime forces have stepped up their military machine and ruthlessly carried out their slogan "everything for the battlefields" in Cambodia. Hence, it is clear that Viet Nam has not the slightest intention of relaxing its stranglehold on Cambodia.

Hanoi's announcement last September of "total withdrawal of Vietnamese forces" has turned out to be merely a ploy aimed at persuading the international community to pay for its continued occupation of Cambodia. In effect, the International Herald Tribune of Wednesday, 21 February 1990, quoting Asian and western officials, reported that "there are now about 20,000 Vietnamese troops disguised as Cambodian" puppet soldiers. In early February, Jane's Defence Weekly reported from Phnom Penh that "10,000 Vietnamese special forces troops were sent to Cambodia" to withstand the increasing attacks by the Cambodian national resistance forces. It is known to all that the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of Cambodia are far from being over. A large number of Vietnamese forces, disguised as troops of the Phnom Penh puppet army or concealed in forests, has indeed been left behind after Hanoi's stage-managed withdrawal in September 1989. Furthermore, tens of thousands of fresh Vietnamese troops have been continuously dispatched to Cambodia along with

tanks, heavy artillery, 122 mm multiple-rocket launchers and other war equipment and materials. As recently as 18 April 1990, a shipload of 10,000 metric tons of assorted weapons and ammunition arrived at the Kompong Som seaport.

In order to prevent the truth from being revealed, Viet Nam has rejected an effective United Nations presence to supervise and verify "the withdrawal" of its forces from Cambodia. It continues to do so. In July 1988, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach called the world-acclaimed International Peace-Keeping Force an "international trouble-making force". Although Viet Nam has finally conceded that the United Nations should "have responsibility" and play some role in the settlement process of the Cambodian problem, there is, however, growing evidence of Vietnamese attempts to use the United Nations only to provide legitimacy to the régime it has installed. In his statement on 27 February 1990 at the Informal Meeting on Cambodia in Jakarta, Indonesia, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said:

"The United Nations must respect the sovereignty of Cambodia ... If Namibia has not been placed under direct administration and military presence of the United Nations, would there be any justice to force Cambodia, an independent and sovereign country, to be placed under direct United Nations administration and military presence of the United Nations, thus violating the Charter of that Organization."

For Viet Nam, Cambodia, occupied and dominated by Hanoi is an "independent and sovereign country" and the Phnom Penh puppet régime is the enshrinement of "Cambodian sovereignty". Should the United Nations be deceived into "respecting" that "Cambodian sovereignty", the results would be catastrophic for the Cambodian people and nation, destructive for the United Nations and highly dangerous for peace and security in South-East Asia and the Pacific. It is Vietnamese duplicity on the role of the United Nations which has impeded the Cambodian peace process. It is Vietnamese obduracy that now stands in the way of a solution to the Cambodian problem.

The National Government of Cambodia, headed by His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Cambodia, has always believed that only the United Nations has the authority, impartiality and expertise to bring peace to Cambodia and ensure conditions that will enable the Cambodian people to exercise freely their right to self-determination. The National Government of Cambodia has warmly welcomed the United Nations 16-point principles the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council have set forth for the settlement of the Cambodian problem. It wishes to express its gratefulness to the five permanent members for their sincere efforts in the search for ways to end the agony of the Cambodian people caused by the Vietnamese aggression and occupation war.

For a just, durable and comprehensive solution to the problem to be found as soon as possible, it is essential that Viet Nam and the Phnom Penh régime be brought to accept this realistic framework in which, among other things:

- The complete withdrawal of foreign forces must be verified by the United Nations; and

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- Free and fair elections must be conducted under direct United Nations administration in a neutral political environment in which no party would be advantaged.

If Viet Nam is sincere in contributing to a political settlement of the Cambodian problem, it should agree with and faithfully support the work of the five permanent members rather than trying "to settle" the problem through military means and manoeuvres. Viet Nam's efforts to project the problem as nothing more than a squabble among the Cambodian factions over the so-called issue of "power-sharing" would be futile.

The world community has a very important role to play in this regard. It has done successfully and admirably in the past. It should continue exerting pressure on Viet Nam until the latter accepts an effective role for the United Nations, if a solution is to be found. Viet Nam's manoeuvres aimed at inveigling the world community into paying for its conquest of Cambodia should be exposed and denounced. If not, Hanoi leaders would be encouraged in their belief that aggression pays, and that would augur ill for the maintenance of peace, security and stability, which are prerequisite for economic development in South-East Asia and the Pacific.

I should be most grateful if you would be so kind as to have this letter circulated as an official document of the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly under agenda item 3.

(Signed) THIOUNN Prasith
Permanent Representative



General Assembly

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A/S-18/13
26 April 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eighteenth special session
Agenda item 3

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. Adeito Nzengeya BAGBENI (Zaire)

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 23 April 1990, the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 28 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee for its eighteenth special session consisting of the following Member States: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, China, Colombia, Malawi, Philippines, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America and Zaire.
2. The Credentials Committee held its meeting on 25 April 1990.
3. Mr. Adeito Nzengeya Bagbeni (Zaire) was unanimously elected Chairman.
4. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General, dated 24 April 1990, concerning the credentials of representatives of Member States to the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly. The representative of the Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel, made a statement relating to the memorandum by the Secretary-General, in which he, inter alia, updated the memorandum by the Secretary-General, indicating those credentials and communications received subsequent to the preparation of the memorandum.
5. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum and the statement relating thereto, formal credentials of representatives to the eighteenth special session, in the form required by rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, had been received as of the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee from the following 100 Member States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Central African

15. The Chairman proposed that, taking into account the statements that had been made in the Committee, which would be reflected in the report, the Committee accept the credentials of the representatives of all the Member States mentioned in the Secretary-General's memorandum, on the understanding that formal credentials for representatives of the Member States referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Secretary-General's memorandum would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible. He proposed a draft resolution for adoption by the Committee which, as revised at the request of one delegation, read as follows:

"The Credentials Committee,

"Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly of the Member States referred to in the memorandum of the Secretary-General dated 24 April 1990,

"Taking into account the various reservations expressed by delegations during the debate,

"Accepts the credentials of the representatives of the Member States concerned, it being understood that credentials in proper form of representatives of Member States participating in the eighteenth special session and for whom credentials have not yet been submitted will be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible."

16. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote.

17. The Chairman then proposed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution (see para. 19). The proposal was adopted without a vote.

18. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the General Assembly.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

19. The Credentials Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Credentials of representatives to the eighteenth
special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.



General Assembly

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Eighteenth special session
Agenda item 9

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION, IN PARTICULAR THE REVITALIZATION
OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the
Eighteenth Special Session

Rapporteur: Mr. Samuel R. INSANALLY (Guyana)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 23 April 1990, the General Assembly established the Ad Hoc Committee of the Eighteenth Special Session and allocated to the Ad Hoc Committee the consideration of agenda item 9, entitled "International economic co-operation, in particular the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries". The Assembly also elected by acclamation Mr. Constantine D. Zepos (Greece) as Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee.
2. Pursuant to a recommendation of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session, the General Assembly decided that the other officers of the Ad Hoc Committee would be Mr. Ahmed Ghezal (Tunisia), Mr. Wang Baoliu (China) and Mr. Edouard Kukan (Czechoslovakia) as Vice-Chairmen and Mr. Samuel R. Insanally (Guyana) as Rapporteur.
3. The Ad Hoc Committee held 5 meetings, on 23, 24, 25, 28 and 30 April 1990. An account of the Ad Hoc Committee's discussions is contained in the relevant summary records (A/S-18/AC.1/SR.1-5). A number of informal meetings were also held.
4. The Committee had before it the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighteenth Special Session (A/S-18/7 (Parts I and II)).
5. At its 1st meeting, the Committee heard statements by the Rector of the United Nations University, the Deputy Director-General of the World Intellectual Property Organization and the Deputy Director-General of the Food and Agriculture

Organization of the United Nations. A representative of a non-governmental organization also made a statement on behalf of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (see A/S-13/AC.1/SR.1).

6. At its 2nd meeting, on 24 April, upon the proposal of the Chairman, the Ad Hoc Committee decided to establish an open-ended drafting group to review the texts submitted to it by the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly, devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries.

7. At its 3rd meeting, on 25 April, the Committee heard statements by the representatives of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and of the World Bank (see A/S-18/AC.1/SR.3).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft proposal submitted by the Chairman (A/S-18/AC.1/L.2)

8. On 26 April, a draft proposal submitted by the Chairman was circulated to the Committee (A/S-18/AC.1/L.2).

9. At the 4th meeting, on 28 April, the Chairman introduced revisions to the draft proposal, submitted as a result of informal consultations.

10. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Norway (on behalf of the Nordic countries), Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China and Poland.

11. At the 5th meeting, on 30 April, the Chairman introduced oral revisions to the draft proposal, submitted as a result of further informal consultations.

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft proposal (see para. 17, draft resolution).

13. Statements were made by the representatives of Brazil, Uganda, the United States of America, Bolivia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), Tunisia, Ethiopia, Ireland (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China, Norway (on behalf of the Nordic countries), Mali (on behalf of the African States), the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (on behalf of the Eastern European States), Canada, Venezuela (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States), the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Arab Group), Japan, France, Sweden (on behalf of the Western European and other States) and Pakistan (on behalf of the Asian States). The Chairman also made a statement (see A/S-18/AC.1/SR.5).

B. Draft resolution A/S-18/AC.1/L.3/Rev.1

14. At the 4th meeting, the representative of Bolivia introduced, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, a draft resolution entitled "Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries" (A/S-18/AC.1/L.3/Rev.1). The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 42/177 of 11 December 1987, by which it decided to convene the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 1990, and all other relevant resolutions,

"1. Decides that the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Paris from 3 to 14 September 1990, should be preceded by a two-day meeting for consultations among senior officials on 30 and 31 August 1990;

"2. Expresses its deep appreciation to the Government of France for its generous offer to host the Second Conference;

"3. Notes with appreciation the decisions of the Governments of Bangladesh, Finland, Nepal, the Netherlands, the Niger and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to host preparatory meetings for the Conference;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to invite the following to the Conference:

"(a) All States Members of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies;

"(b) Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate, in the capacity of observers, in the sessions and the work of all international conferences convened under its auspices to participate in the Conference in that capacity, in accordance with Assembly resolutions 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and 43/177 of 15 December 1988;

"(c) Representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity in its region to participate in the Conference in the capacity of observers, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974;

"(d) All executive heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as other organs of the United Nations;

"(e) Intergovernmental organizations in consultative status with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which should be represented by observers at the Conference;

/...

"(f) Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Economic and Social Council, which should be represented by observers at the Conference;

"5. Welcomes decision 88/30 of 1 July 1988 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to provide assistance, through the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries, to finance the expenses of representatives of least developed countries to participate fully in the preparatory process of the Conference and in the Conference itself, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure effective participation of representatives of least developed countries in the Conference and the two-day meeting for consultations by financing from the above-mentioned fund the travel expenses of three representatives from each least developed country."

15. At its 5th meeting, following a proposal by the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, the Ad Hoc Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly defer consideration of the draft resolution to a meeting of the Assembly at its forty-fourth session (see para. 18, draft decision).

16. At the same meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee adopted its report (A/S-18/AC.1/L.1), as orally revised by the Rapporteur.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION

17. The Ad Hoc Committee of the Eighteenth Special Session recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries

The General Assembly

Adopts the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, annexed to the present resolution.

ANNEX

Declaration

We, the States Members of the United Nations,

Solemnly proclaim our strong commitment to a global consensus to promote urgently international economic co-operation for sustained growth of the world economy and, in particular, to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries so as to realize the basic right of all human beings to a life free from hunger, poverty, ignorance, disease and fear. To that end, we adopt the present Declaration.

1. This is a time of positive transformation in international relations. The reduction in international political tensions, the increasing integration of the world economy and the broad movement towards economic and political reform will create an opportunity for strengthening international economic co-operation based on the need to provide just and equal opportunities to all peoples to enable them to develop their full potential.

2. We strongly affirm the need to revitalize growth and development in the developing countries and to address together the problems of abject poverty and hunger that continue to afflict far too many people in the world. The international community has a responsibility to give strong support to the efforts of the developing countries to solve their grave economic and social problems through the creation of a favourable international economic environment.

3. In an increasingly interdependent world, the developing countries should play an important role in the growth and expansion of the world economy for the progress and prosperity of all peoples.

4. Each country is responsible for its own economic policies for development, in accordance with its specific situations and conditions, and for the life and well-being of all its citizens. National policies also need to take fully into account the obligations of all countries to international economic co-operation.

ASSESSMENT OF THE 1980s

5. In the 1980s, progress in developed and developing countries has been uneven. The decade was marked by an increasing gap between those groups of countries as well as by relatively slow growth and large global financial and trade imbalances. Developed market-oriented countries have succeeded to a large extent in controlling inflation and in maintaining sustained, though modest, growth. However, many countries, particularly developing ones, have encountered serious difficulties in their attempt to adapt to structural changes, to benefit from the economic growth of the industrialized countries and to promote the well-being of their citizens.

6. External and fiscal imbalances in some of the countries whose economies have the largest impact on the world economy have contributed to international monetary instability and led to higher interest rates. In the late 1980s, such imbalances have started to narrow; none the less they remain large.

7. For many developing countries, the 1980s have been viewed as a decade lost for development. Living conditions in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, and in parts of Asia, have deteriorated, and economic and social infrastructure has eroded, impairing stability and prospects for growth and development. Other developing countries have been able to achieve economic and social progress.

8. The position of developing countries in international trade and finance has substantially weakened, further widening the gap between those countries and the developed ones. External indebtedness emerged as a main factor in the economic stalemate in the developing countries. Their capacity to service debt was seriously weakened as interest rates grew and terms of trade deteriorated. This problem has contributed to the fall in investment and the cessation of new financial flows. A long-term downward trend in the prices of commodities had devastating effects for commodity-dependent developing countries.

9. As a result, there was a large net transfer of resources from the developing to the developed countries, depriving the former of much needed resources for development. This made the process of adjustment more difficult and complicated the tasks of coping with its social consequences and obtaining the necessary political support for reform.

10. Eastern European countries were not appropriately involved in the world economic system. Their need for comprehensive reform and transformation grew and, in the late 1980s, fundamental political and economic changes began to take place. These countries face problems of adaptation to the scientific, technological and structural changes taking place in the world economy.

11. As the world changes around us, we must respond positively. The 1980s marked the beginning of fundamental rethinking towards the achievement of economic development. A gradual convergence of views on economic policy, including the need for sound macro-economic policies and enhanced competition, is emerging. Flexibility, creativity, innovation and openness must be integral parts of our economic systems.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE 1990s

12. The most important challenge for the 1990s is the revitalization of economic growth and social development in the developing countries, which calls for sustained growth of the world economy and favourable external conditions. This major challenge has to be addressed in the context of the increasing interdependence and integration in the world economy.

13. It will be essential to stem the increasing marginalization of the least developed countries and to reactivate their growth and development through comprehensive national action and international support measures.

14. Finding an early and durable solution to the international debt problems, meeting the increasing needs for development finance, creating an open and equitable trading system and facilitating the diversification and modernization of the economies of developing countries, particularly those that are commodity-dependent, are conditions for the revitalization of growth and development in the developing countries in the 1990s and require continued concerted efforts.

15. There is a pressing need to improve the international economic environment in order to ensure the success of national policies. Countries can then take advantage of the major advances in science and technology and the globalization of markets and thereby enhance their human capital and modernize their economies.

16. Economic development must be environmentally sound and sustainable. The deterioration of the environment is a cause of grave concern for all countries. Growing environmental problems, such as pollution, desertification, deforestation and climate change, increasingly pose a serious threat to the future growth of the world economy.

17. Countries have to adapt their national policies to facilitate open exchange and flexible responses to the changing world economy. Effective national policies have a critical role to play in achieving sustained, non-inflationary economic growth in all countries. Such policies should be supportive of investment as well as of efficient allocation and mobilization of resources in order to achieve durable growth.

18. The eradication of poverty and hunger, greater equity in income distribution and the development of human resources remain major challenges everywhere. Economic and social progress requires that growth be broadly based, offering equal opportunities to all people, both women and men, to participate fully in economic, social and political activities.

19. There is a need to integrate the Eastern European countries into the world economy and the international economic system. This should generate positive impulses for world trade and development.

20. The revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries will have to be undertaken against the backdrop of these opportunities and challenges. Our collective efforts will be needed to ensure that the rapidly changing realities result in a positive transformation in favour of the economic development of all countries, particularly of the developing countries.

COMMITMENTS AND POLICIES FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

21. Reactivation of economic growth and development in the developing countries will require a concerted and committed effort by all countries. The present opportunity to restore a long-term approach to development and move beyond short-term adjustment must be seized. The Members of the United Nations will endeavour to take all necessary steps to reverse the adverse trends of the 1980s, address the challenges of the 1990s and move into a more productive decade. Such actions should take into account the responsibility of each country for its own development and should be in accordance with its capacity and its impact on the international economy.

22. The major industrialized countries influence world economic growth and the international economic environment profoundly. They should continue their efforts to promote sustained growth and to narrow imbalances in a manner than can benefit other countries. The co-ordination of macro-economic policies should take full account of the interests and concerns of all countries, particularly the developing countries. Efforts should be made to enhance the effectiveness of multilateral surveillance aimed at correcting existing external and fiscal imbalances, promoting non-inflationary sustainable growth, lowering real rates of interest, and making exchange rates more stable and markets more accessible.

23. In accordance with their legislation, development objectives and national priorities, developing countries should continue to work towards keeping control over inflationary tendencies, promoting domestic savings, achieving favourable conditions for domestic and foreign investment, modernizing their economies, and increasing their international competitiveness.

24. However, economic policies should have as their ultimate objective the betterment of the human condition and the enhancement of the contribution of all persons to development. The full utilization of human resources and the recognition of human rights stimulate creativity, innovation and initiative.

25. A primary objective must be to respond to the needs of and maximize the potential of all members of society. Health, nutrition, housing, population policies and other social services are a key to both improving individual welfare and successful development. Education and training, which must be available to all, are essential for improving the quality of human resources and for sustaining economic growth. The international community should support efforts to arrest the current escalation of extreme poverty and hunger. It is essential to reverse the present deterioration of this grave situation.

26. A durable and broad solution of the external debt problems of the developing debtor countries should continue to be given urgent attention, and the serious debt-servicing problems of some other countries should be further addressed with a view to an early solution. Recent initiatives and measures to reduce the stock and service of debt or to provide debt relief for developing countries should be broadly implemented. Relief measures should aim at the resumption of vigorous growth and development in these countries and should address all types of bilateral debt of debtor developing countries. Serious consideration should be given to continuing to work towards a growth-oriented solution of the problems of developing countries with serious debt-servicing problems, including those whose debt is mainly to official creditors or to multilateral institutions.

27. Substantial concessional resources will be called for to enable developing countries, especially the least developed ones, to cope with the challenges of the 1990s. Developed countries should implement the undertakings they have made to attain the agreed international target of devoting 0.7 per cent of gross national product to official development assistance and 0.15 per cent to the least developed countries. Developed countries should enhance the quantity and quality of their aid. Appropriate additional resources for the least developed countries should be considered at the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. The special development problems and needs of the island and land-locked developing countries should also be addressed.

28. Scientific and technological capability is increasingly important in the development of developing countries. Developed countries and international organizations should support the efforts of developing countries to create and develop endogenous capacities in this area.

29. The current threat to the environment is the common concern of all. All countries should take effective actions for the protection and enhancement of the environment in accordance with their respective capacities and responsibilities, and taking into account the specific needs of developing countries. As the major sources of pollution, the developed countries have the main responsibility for taking appropriate measures urgently. The economic growth and development of developing countries are essential in order to address problems of the degradation and protection of the environment. New and additional financial resources will have to be channelled to developing countries. Effective modalities for favourable access to, and transfer of, environmentally sound technologies, in particular to developing countries, including on concessional and preferential terms, should be examined.

30. Multilateral financial institutions should be in a position to respond to the increasing development needs of developing countries in the 1990s. They should be provided with adequate resources to support long-term development, to facilitate structural reform and to finance programmes to alleviate the adverse social consequences of adjustment for poor and vulnerable groups.

31. Countries should seek to reduce expenditures for military purposes, thereby opening up the possibility of enhanced spending on social and economic development for the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries. In this context, the feasibility of channelling some of these reductions through financial mechanisms for development should be explored.

32. An open and credible multilateral trading system is essential for the promotion of growth and development. Any present or future trends towards unilateralism, bilateralism and the erosion of the multilateral trading system must be arrested. Protectionism should be resisted everywhere; commitments to standstill and roll-back of protectionism should be honoured. It is vitally important that the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations result in a balanced outcome, preserving and strengthening the multilateral trading system, enabling trade liberalization and increased market access for the exports of developing countries. The principles underlying the multilateral trade system should be reaffirmed, and international organizations in the area of multilateral trade should be strengthened as a part of the process of attaining these objectives.

33. Commodity exports will continue to play a key role in the economies of most developing countries and to make a crucial contribution to export earnings and investment. There is a need for better functioning of commodity markets and more stable and predictable conditions. Diversification helps the developing countries to increase and stabilize their export earnings. All countries and multilateral institutions should undertake measures to support these endeavours.

34. Regional economic integration is important in expanding trade and investment in developing countries. Developing countries should strive to promote economic integration and strengthen economic and technical co-operation among themselves. These efforts should be encouraged and supported by the developed countries, as well as by the international organizations.

35. Eastern European countries should be supported in their efforts to integrate themselves into the international economy, including, as appropriate, their adhesion to international institutions. This will benefit their own people and the rest of the world; it must not detract from the high priority placed on international development co-operation with the developing countries. Their integration will strengthen the role of Eastern Europe as a dynamic trade partner and as a market and source of technology.

36. The United Nations system has a large role to play in international co-operation for revitalizing development in the 1990s. All its Member States have a responsibility for making it more effective and efficient. The United Nations is a unique forum in which the community of nations can address all issues in an integrated manner. Its many specialized agencies make an indispensable contribution to development. They have a major responsibility in the great task of revitalizing growth and development in the 1990s.

37. Member States agree to work for fruitful results at the forthcoming Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, in the elaboration of a new international development strategy, the World Summit for Children, the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in 1991, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Brazil in 1992, and the international meeting on population in 1994.

38. The States Members of the United Nations pledge themselves solemnly to advance the multilateral dialogue, to respond to the challenge and commitments contained in the present Declaration through national policies and enhanced international co-operation and to keep the implementation of the Declaration under political review.

* * *

18. The Ad Hoc Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

The General Assembly decides to defer consideration of the draft resolution 1/ entitled "Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries" to a meeting of the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session to be convened on 17 May 1990.

1/ A/S-18/AC.1/L.3/Rev.1.